

# Dedham Middle School

## OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

March 20, 2023

Dear DMS Families,

Happy first day of Spring! This week's forecast certainly looks Spring-like with temperatures in the 50's each day!

Here's what's going on this week:

- **Mismatched Socks Tomorrow:** Every year on March 21, people all around the world come together to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day by wearing brightly colored, mismatched socks. March 21 is symbolic because people with Down syndrome have 3 copies of their 21st chromosome.
- **Trimester 2 Grades:** Today marked the last day of Trimester 2. Final grades and comments will be available on PowerSchool next Monday.
- **Trimester 3:** Our last Trimester begins tomorrow. Students have received reminders to check PowerSchool for their new Unified Arts classes.
- **DHS Open House:** Principal Forrest has notified me that the Open House on April 5th will be rescheduled.
- **MCAS:** Please mark your calendars for ELA MCAS taking place on April 5th & 6th. As functional chromebooks are essential for taking the test, Mrs. Matthews has sent an email to all students checking to see if anyone needs chromebook repairs.
- **Chromebook Chargers:** Now is also a good time to be sure your student can charge their chromebooks the night before MCAS. Please ask your student about their charger and if a new one is needed, [here](#) is a link to purchase one.
- **PTO Announcement:** The DMS PTO has begun more Facebook raffles! We've got some great prizes...this week is a \$100 gift card to Waves Car Wash.
- **Community Flyers:** Click [here](#) for information on upcoming events around the district. Please take note of the Dedham Fine Arts Boosters meeting notice for April 11th and the 2 upcoming SEPAC events.
- **Questions of the week:**
  - **Grade 6:** What are you most proud of after finishing your literary essay? What are the challenges that you faced during the writing process?
  - **Grade 7:** Where would you find chloroplasts? What do the chloroplasts take in and release?
  - **Grade 8:** Why do similar species have such different physical characteristics?

Lastly, I have been emailing families for weeks regarding morning safety and the importance of utilizing the correct drop off procedures. Unfortunately, it has come to my attention that we were perhaps not our best selves today in the parent loop. Let's try to remember that we are all busy in the morning with places we need to get to. With that in mind, we must also remember that we are one community and need to drive (and speak to one another) respectfully - not just for safety but for the modeling we provide to our children as well.

With gratitude,

Karen

**Dedham Public Schools**

DEDHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

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